

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR HIERARCHICAL SEGMENTATION
WITH LATENT SEMANTIC INDEXING IN SCALE SPACE**

Abstract of the Disclosure

A system and method for automatically generating a hierarchical table of contents
5 or outline for indexing a document and identifying clusters of related information in the
document. The document may comprise text, audio, video, or a multimedia presentation.
The invention employs a unique and novel combination of latent semantic indexing
10 techniques to identify related blocks and major topic changes within the document with
scale space segmentation techniques to respectively identify self-similar blocks within
the document and to thus find topic changes of various sizes at block edges. The
invention then produces a visual presentation of the semantic structure of the document.